

# EXHIBIT 1

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Deshawn Briggs, *et al.*,

*Plaintiffs,*

V.

## Treatment Assessment and Screening Center, Inc.

### *Defendants.*

No. CV-18-2684-PHX-EJM

## DECLARATION OF SUMAYYA SALEH

I, Sumayya Saleh, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney at Civil Rights Corps, and I am counsel of record for Plaintiffs and the putative class in the above-referenced action.

2. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this declaration.

1       3. This declaration is submitted to set forth: 1) the history of this litigation; 2)  
 2 the significant work that Named Plaintiffs Deshawn Briggs, Lucia Soria, and Mark  
 3 Pascale (now through his son, Antonio Pascale, on behalf of his estate)—invested in this  
 4 Litigation and in representing the interests of absent class members; and 3) the  
 5 reasonableness of the requested Attorneys' Fees Award in light of the time and effort  
 6 expended by Plaintiffs' counsel.

7       **I. Litigation History**

8       4. Plaintiffs' counsel conducted a detailed investigation before they filed this  
 9 lawsuit. This involved interviewing individuals who had participated in the Possession of  
 10 Marijuana Deferred Prosecution Program (POM or MDPP) in Maricopa County and  
 11 speaking with public defenders who had represented individuals who participated in the  
 12 diversion program.

13       5. On August 23, 2018, Named Plaintiffs Deshawn Briggs and Mark Pascale,  
 14 along with former Named Plaintiff Taja Collier, filed a putative class action complaint  
 15 against the Maricopa County Attorney's Office (MCAO) and Treatment Assessment and  
 16 Screening Center, Inc. (TASC) in the United States District Court for the District of  
 17 Arizona, challenging wealth-based discrimination and illegal searches in the MDPP. Doc.  
 18 1. On October 13, 2018, Named Plaintiffs filed their First Amended Complaint, adding  
 19 former Named Plaintiff McKenna Stephens. Doc. 20. On September 23, 2019, Plaintiffs  
 20 filed their Second Amended Complaint, adding Named Plaintiff Lucia Soria. Doc. 110.  
 21 Mark Pascale passed away during the pendency of the Litigation. His son Antonio  
 22 Pascale, in his capacity as personal representative of the Estate of Mark Pascale,  
 23 substituted him as Named Plaintiff. Doc. 171. Former Named Plaintiffs McKenna  
 24 Stephens and Taja Collier were dismissed with prejudice from the Litigation on February  
 25 7, 2020. Doc. 138.

26       6. The essence of Plaintiffs' claims is this: Defendants imposed three  
 27 requirements for successful completion of the MDPP: 90 days of "clean" urinalysis  
 28 testing (i.e. not testing positive for drugs or alcohol), a drug education seminar, and the

1 payment of about \$1,000 in program fees. Plaintiffs contended that Defendants  
 2 impermissibly subjected individuals who were unable to afford the program fees to longer  
 3 terms of diversion supervision solely because of their poverty, in violation of Plaintiffs'  
 4 rights as set forth in *Bearden v. Georgia*, 461 U.S. 660 (1983). They faulted Defendants'  
 5 failure to inquire into and make findings regarding participants' ability to pay before  
 6 extending their time on the program after the non-payment based requirements were  
 7 complete ("pay-only" extensions). Plaintiffs also contended that invasive urinalysis tests  
 8 during the pay-only period were unreasonable under the Fourth Amendment.

9       7.     Shortly after Plaintiffs filed this case, Defendants TASC and MCAO moved  
 10 to dismiss. Docs. 25 & 29. Plaintiffs responded to both motions. Docs. 43 & 45. After  
 11 conducting oral argument, Doc. 82, the Court found in Plaintiffs' favor and declined to  
 12 dismiss the case, Doc. 89. The Court found that "Plaintiffs have sufficiently pled a prima  
 13 facie case of wealth discrimination based on the [challenged] policies." Doc. 89 at 21.

14       8.     The Court then ordered the parties to engage in pre-certification class  
 15 discovery. Doc. 98 at 2 n.1.

16       9.     Approximately one year later, Plaintiffs and Defendant MCAO reached a  
 17 settlement agreement as to Named Plaintiffs damages claims. Doc. 174. Plaintiffs' claims  
 18 against MCAO were dismissed in November 2020.

19       10.    Plaintiffs and Defendant TASC continued through discovery. Over the  
 20 course of discovery, the parties exchanged nearly 9,000 documents, including over 7,000  
 21 produced by Defendant TASC. This included the court-ordered production of 910 MDPP  
 22 program participant files after protracted litigation of a motion to compel. *See* Docs. 139,  
 23 144, 148, 151, 182. Plaintiffs filed and prevailed on several other discovery motions. *See*,  
 24 e.g., Docs. 262, 284, 306. The parties engaged in deposition discovery as well. Defendants  
 25 deposed Named Plaintiffs and two of Plaintiffs' expert witnesses, and Plaintiffs deposed  
 26 seven former TASC employees and three TASC expert witnesses. Named Plaintiffs also  
 27 responded to multiple rounds of interrogatories.

1       11. In January 2021, Plaintiffs and Defendant TASC engaged in a settlement  
 2 conference but were unable to reach a resolution. Doc. 238. Shortly thereafter, in March  
 3 2021, Defendant TASC moved for summary judgment, Doc. 246, which Plaintiffs  
 4 opposed, Docs. 277 & 278.<sup>1</sup> TASC moved to stay discovery during the pendency of the  
 5 motion, Doc. 252, but the Court denied its request, Doc. 276.

6       12. After the close of class discovery, Plaintiffs moved for class certification  
 7 (in October 2021). Doc. 347. They marshalled voluminous exhibits in support of their  
 8 request, which included a comprehensive analysis of the participant program files. Doc.  
 9 347-5 (Ex. 8). Plaintiffs later filed three separate *Daubert* motions to exclude the opinions  
 10 of experts proffered by Defendant TASC. Docs. 388-390.

11       13. In the meantime, this Court denied TASC’s motion for summary judgment.  
 12 Doc. 375. In so doing, it reaffirmed that TASC was constitutionally required to “first  
 13 determine the reasons for non-payment and consider alternatives before extending a  
 14 participant in the MDPP solely because of alleged inability to pay TASC’s fees.” *Id.* at 5-  
 15 6.

16       14. Shortly thereafter, the parties began discussing settlement. *See* Doc. 384.  
 17 They hired a certified JAMS Mediator, Hon. Peggy Leen (Ret.), and engaged in a  
 18 successful mediation in June 2022. Doc. 405. At the time, they reached an agreement in  
 19 principle as to the amount of the total settlement fund. *Id.* at 2. Since that time, the parties  
 20 have worked collaboratively to iron out the precise terms of the agreement. Doc. 409.

21       15. After months of negotiating with Defendant TASC and consulting with  
 22 Named Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs’ counsel finalized the settlement agreement. The parties  
 23 signed it in early April, 2023.

## 24       **II.      Named Plaintiff Participation**

25       16. Named Plaintiffs were deeply involved at every stage of this complex,  
 26 lengthy litigation. They shared their difficult stories repeatedly, responded to intrusive

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27       28<sup>1</sup> Plaintiffs did concede, however, that their injunctive claims were moot and pressed only  
 their claims for money damages. Doc. 277 at 19.

1 discovery requests, and sat for lengthy depositions that delved into highly personal  
2 matters. They also remained in regular telephonic communication with Plaintiffs' counsel  
3 and actively helped counsel obtain critical information for discovery. They took on these  
4 responsibilities on behalf of the class while navigating unemployment, personal tragedies,  
5 housing insecurity, and ongoing stress about providing financially for themselves and  
6 their families.

7       17. Over the course of many years, Named Plaintiffs collaborated closely with  
8 Plaintiffs' counsel to complete a tremendous amount of work to advance the litigation.

9       18. In November 2019, Defendant TASC served a set of interrogatories (9),  
10 requests for production (3), and requests for admission (3).

11       19. Named Plaintiffs worked closely with Plaintiffs' counsel to respond. The  
12 interrogatories in particular required a lot of work. Over the course of discovery, Plaintiffs  
13 supplemented these responses three times. All in all, Named Plaintiffs spent hours  
14 meeting with counsel to provide information for the responses and to review and verify  
15 them.

16       20. Named Plaintiffs also collaborated with counsel to retrieve documents  
17 responsive to Defendant TASC's requests for production. This included submitting  
18 requests to multiple government agencies for records from the period Plaintiffs were  
19 enrolled in TASC to substantiate their poverty (including tax returns and food stamps  
20 authorizations).

21       21. Named Plaintiffs sat through lengthy and intrusive depositions. Each of  
22 them spent several hours with counsel to prepare.

23       22. Named Plaintiff Deshawn Briggs was deposed in October 2021. The  
24 deposition experience was difficult for him. Defense counsel asked probing questions  
25 about his finances and familial relationships—sensitive topics he had to discuss with a  
26 complete stranger. One of the difficult parts of the deposition for Mr. Briggs was  
27 questions about why he did not ask his family for money, including his great-great-  
28 grandparents. Mr. Briggs is very close to and protective of his family. He knew that they

1 were all struggling financially, including at the time he was enrolled in the TASC  
2 program.

3       23.    Named Plaintiff Antonio Pascale was deposed in November 2020. He spent  
4 several hours preparing for his deposition, and a full day being deposed by counsel for  
5 TASC. Because Mr. Pascale was unable to access the internet at the time, he traveled to  
6 Plaintiff counsel's office for the deposition. Mr. Pascale describes the deposition as the  
7 most emotionally trying experience of his participation in this case, as he was subjected  
8 to hours of questions, seemingly the same, that often called into question his credibility  
9 and motive for representing his late father.

10       24.    Plaintiff Lucia Soria, too, sat for a day-long deposition in November 2020.  
11 She did so while navigating serious health issues and constant physical pain. She endured  
12 extensive and intrusive questioning related to her personal finances and attempts to  
13 undermine her credibility.

14       25.    Finally, Named Plaintiffs also worked with counsel to prepare and submit  
15 declarations in support of evidentiary briefing. This includes Plaintiffs' response to  
16 Defendant TASC's motion for summary judgment, *see* Doc. 278-3, Ex. 24 at 114; 278-4,  
17 Ex. 34 at 121, as well as Plaintiffs' motion for class certification, *see* Doc. 347-4, Ex. 5-  
18 7.

19       26.    Named Plaintiffs were also invested in the attempts to resolve this litigation.  
20 Before both mediation sessions, Named Plaintiffs met and discussed with counsel their  
21 objectives for any resolution of the case. They were also in contact with counsel during  
22 both mediations, asking probing questions and discussing the viability of the offers on the  
23 table. In fact, all three attended the second mediation session (though Plaintiff Soria had  
24 to leave early due to some health issues). Admirably, all three Named Plaintiffs repeatedly  
25 and unambiguously emphasized the importance of achieving a class-wide resolution that  
26 would benefit all individuals similarly situated to them.

27       27.    Named Plaintiffs did all this while navigating a great deal of personal  
28 hardship.

1       28.    Named Plaintiff Deshawn Briggs endured immense personal loss and  
2 hardship over the course of the litigation. In fact, in the span of 14 months, Mr. Briggs  
3 lost three people who were very close to him: his great-great-grandfather, an ex-girlfriend  
4 who was dear to him, and his father.

5       29.    Mr. Briggs's great-great-grandfather (whom he refers to as his grandfather)  
6 passed away in October 2020, days after Mr. Briggs was deposed. The timing was  
7 particularly hard on Mr. Briggs because of the deposition questions about his  
8 grandparents. Mr. Briggs's grandfather was like a father figure to Mr. Briggs. He raised  
9 Mr. Briggs from when he was a two-month-old baby until he was nine years old. Even  
10 after that, he played a big role in Mr. Briggs's life. He taught him how to cook, how to  
11 plant, and how to change a tire.

12       30.    A few months later, in March 2021, Mr. Briggs lost a friend and ex-  
13 girlfriend who meant a lot to him. She had reached out to him just a few months prior,  
14 updating him on serious health issues she was experiencing. She passed away during  
15 surgery. In light of their past history and the recent communication, her death took a toll  
16 on Mr. Briggs. This coincided with a time period when Mr. Briggs was working closely  
17 with Plaintiffs' counsel to respond to discovery requests. Despite the personal hardship,  
18 Mr. Briggs always made himself available and took as much time as was needed to  
19 respond to the discovery requests.

20       31.    The toughest loss came in December 2021, when Mr. Briggs's father passed  
21 away. At around Thanksgiving, Mr. Briggs learned from his step-mother that a number  
22 of family members had contracted COVID-19. The family was particularly concerned  
23 about Mr. Briggs's father, because he did not have a spleen—the virus was a potential  
24 death sentence. Unfortunately, Mr. Briggs's father contracted COVID-19. Mr. Briggs had  
25 planned to come to Tucson for oral argument on summary judgment in this case, which  
26 took place on December 2, 2021. Despite his father's illness, Mr. Briggs drove to Tucson  
27 and attended the hearing. It was incredibly important for him to be there—as a class  
28 representative, he was invested in the case developments, and recognized summary

1 judgment as a critical stage in the case. Mr. Briggs returned to Phoenix after the hearing,  
 2 only to learn that his father had been hospitalized and was in a dire situation. He passed  
 3 away at the hospital from COVID-19 complications the following evening. His death  
 4 came quickly and was a shock to Mr. Briggs and his entire family. The Court denied  
 5 TASC's motion for summary judgment at the end of the month. Even though Mr. Briggs  
 6 was still very much processing his father's passing, he prioritized speaking with  
 7 Plaintiffs' counsel about this case development.

8       32. Through all of these hardships, Mr. Briggs never wavered in his  
 9 commitment to serving as a class representative in this case.

10       33. Named Plaintiff Antonio Pascale has been actively involved in this  
 11 litigation since April 2020 as his father Mark Pascale's representative following his  
 12 father's death in October 2019. *See* Doc. 155. His father Mark Pascale was one of the  
 13 original Named Plaintiffs in the case.

14       34. After his father's death, Antonio Pascale handled all of his father's  
 15 arrangements, from his father's cremation services, to settling his father's accounts and  
 16 selling his father's house. In addition, Antonio Pascale paid for nearly all of his father's  
 17 cremation services, over \$7,000.

18       35. As the representative of his father's estate, Antonio Pascale also paid  
 19 several thousand dollars to his probate attorneys handling his father's estate.

20       36. Though having no personal stake in the outcome of this case, in honor of  
 21 his father's efforts and seeking that justice be done, Antonio Pascale stepped into this case  
 22 as a representative of his father's estate, beginning the onboarding process in early 2020.

23       37. While handling his father's postmortem affairs and grieving for this  
 24 immense loss, Antonio Pascale dedicated a large amount of time to this case and  
 25 becoming an informed representative of his father. He spoke frequently to Plaintiffs'  
 26 lawyers about this case, at times spending several hours every week on phone calls with  
 27 Plaintiffs' lawyers, spent additional hours reviewing lengthy court filings, and additional  
 28 time coordinating with a roaming notary service to physically sign off on documents.

1       38. Adding to this labor was the fact that Antonio Pascale did not have access  
2 to the internet. Thus, instead of being able to use email, review emailed electronic  
3 documents or electronically sign papers, any communications, documents or signatures  
4 had to take place through the lengthy process of phone calls, the physical mailing of paper  
5 documents and in person signatures.

6       39. In addition, during the entire duration of his participation in this case,  
7 Antonio Pascale worked between 50 and 60 or more hours per week doing asphalt  
8 construction. Asphalt construction is a particularly physically demanding job. It involves  
9 manually paving black top on roads via a large industrial machine. The asphalt itself as it  
10 comes out of the machine is between 350 and 370 degrees Fahrenheit. Antonio Pascale  
11 works this job all year long including in the Arizona summer heat where outside  
12 temperatures reach 113 degrees Fahrenheit. Working next to a large, heated, industrial  
13 machine producing asphalt at nearly 370 degrees Fahrenheit in Arizona heat of 113  
14 degrees Fahrenheit, workers risk serious heat exhaustion on a daily basis. After working  
15 in these conditions for 10 hours per day, Antonio Pascale would come home and work on  
16 remodeling his home. After this physically demanding labor of his job and home  
17 construction, Antonio Pascale would still make time to speak to Plaintiffs' counsel at  
18 length.

19       40. Antonio Pascale did not know the full extent of his father's financial  
20 struggles until he came onto this case as his father's representative. Antonio Pascale  
21 believes Mark Pascale did not communicate the extent of his financial struggles due to  
22 his pride. Antonio Pascale went through the painful process of learning of his father's  
23 struggles only after his father had passed and after it was clearly too late to help his father.

24       41. As for Named Plaintiff Lucia Soria, the last few years of her life have been  
25 marked by persisting health issues that lead to a vicious cycle of unemployment and  
26 ongoing depression, anxiety, and panic attacks.

27       42. In addition to the chronic pain and gastrointestinal and neurological issues  
28 Ms. Soria has contended with for years, *see, e.g.*, Doc. 278, CSMF ¶ 100, she contracted

1 COVID-19 twice. She really thought she was going to die. She was hospitalized around  
2 three times. She also lost her grandmother to the pandemic.

3       43. Ms. Soria also had a hysterectomy in December 2022 because doctors  
4 detected precancerous cells in her uterus. It was a very terrifying experience, especially  
5 because two years earlier, she had another cancer scare because of a mass in her stomach.  
6 She lost sleep agonizing about the fact that she was going leave her kids behind. Her stress  
7 and anxiety were exacerbated by doctors' failure to give her the answers she was looking  
8 for about what was happening to her and why.

9       44. These health issues have had a ripple effect on other parts of Ms. Soria's  
10 life, particularly when it comes to financial stability. Ms. Soria stopped working in 2018  
11 at the advice of her doctor. Doc. 278-3, Ex. 24 ¶ 4. She has gone through the process of  
12 trying to get disability benefits, so she can support herself and her family. *See* Doc. 278-  
13 6, Ex. 49. Ms. Soria was not approved. She attended a telephonic hearing at the beginning  
14 of 2022. Her understanding is that she has not been approved for disability benefits  
15 because they feel like there is still some work she can do, like cleaning houses. But she  
16 can barely clean her own house—she works very slowly and takes numerous breaks  
17 throughout so she can manage the pain. This adds to her stress.

18       45. Even though Ms. Soria is unemployed, she does not get food stamps  
19 anymore because her boyfriend supports her, and his income disqualifies her. But he does  
20 not make a lot of money and uses his income to pay their rent, car insurance, and other  
21 fixed expenses. And food has gotten very expensive. Ms. Soria is diabetic and has kidney  
22 issues. So she has to watch what she eats, and healthy foods cost a lot of money.

23       46. Neither can Ms. Soria afford the type of medication or healthcare that she  
24 believes would really help her. For example, she tried going to a naturopathic doctor,  
25 where she once had a really good experience and got much better care than she is  
26 accustomed to. But insurance does not cover this type of medicine, so she was not able to  
27 sustain it. If she had access to better healthcare, she thinks her depression and anxiety  
28 would be much less severe.

1       47. Despite her chronic medical issues, Ms. Soria has remained a committed  
 2 class representative. For instance, during the June 2022 mediation, Ms. Soria had a flare-  
 3 up of her chronic gastrointestinal issues. Still, she attended several hours of the mediation  
 4 and was engaged in discussing the settlement proposals with counsel.

5       **III. Reasonable Hours and Costs Expended by Class Counsel**

6       48. As set forth above, this litigation required a significant expenditure of time  
 7 and resources by Plaintiffs' counsel.

8       49. Over the four-and-a-half years that Plaintiffs have litigated this case,  
 9 Plaintiffs' counsel have spent more than 9,000 hours litigating it, conservatively estimated  
 10 at \$5 million in time value applying reasonable hourly rates.

11       50. For Civil Rights Corps, this includes approximately 6,000 hours (estimated  
 12 at more than \$3.3 million in time value) by Sumayya Saleh, Katie Chamblee-Ryan, Ryan  
 13 Downer, and Bina Ahmad of Civil Rights Corps, and at least \$500,000 worth of time  
 14 expended by other CRC attorneys and investigators who worked on the case.

15       51. As for Covington, it includes over 3,000 hours by attorneys and support  
 16 staff (worth more than \$1 million in time value from counsel of record alone, in addition  
 17 to countless hours expended by support staff and other firm lawyers).

18       52. Civil Rights Corps and Covington have also spent over \$100,000 in costs,  
 19 including deposition costs, transcript costs, expert costs, filing fees, legal research fees,  
 20 postage and mailings, and travel costs.

21       53. In addition, as of June 2022, local counsel from Osborn Maledon had also  
 22 expended hard costs and attorney hours in excess of \$80,000.

23       **IV. Exhibits In Support of Motion for Preliminary Approval**

24       54. Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of the Settlement Agreement entered  
 25 into by Plaintiffs and Defendant TASC in April 2023.

26       55. Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 1 to the Settlement  
 27 Agreement, a Proposed Order Granting Preliminary Approval.

1       56. Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 2 to the Settlement  
2 Agreement, a short-form notice to potential class members about the terms of the  
3 proposed settlement.

4        57. Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 3 to the Settlement  
5 Agreement, a long-form notice to potential class members about the terms of the proposed  
6 settlement.

7       58. Exhibit 6 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 4 to the Settlement  
8 Agreement. These are instructions for the Settlement Administrator to determine  
9 claimants' eligibility for a Cash Award.

10       59. Exhibit 7 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 5 to the Settlement  
11 Agreement, a verification-of-income form that claimants must submit.

12       60. Exhibit 8 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 6 to the Settlement  
13 Agreement, an authorization for release of medical information to the Settlement  
14 Administrator and Class Counsel that claimants must submit.

15        61. Exhibit 9 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 7 to the Settlement  
16 Agreement. It is a form that will be available to putative class members to update their  
17 contact information.

18       62. Exhibit 10 is a true and correct copy of Exhibit 8 to the Settlement  
19 Agreement. It is the declaration of the Settlement Administrator.

21 I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the  
best of my knowledge.

23 | DATED: April 6, 2023

/s/ Sumayya Saleh  
Sumayya Saleh